

County of Los Angeles  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES**

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February 22, 2007

**TO:** Each Supervisor

  
**FROM:** Bryce Yokomizo, Director

Bruce A. Chernof, MD, Director and Chief Medical Officer  
Department of Health Services  


**SUBJECT: STATUS REPORT ON THE MEDICAL FIELD TRAINING FOR  
CalWORKs PARTICIPANTS (BOARD ORDER #74B – MARCH 7, 2006)**

This is to provide you with the second status report on the Medical Field Training Program for CalWORKs participants.

As background, on March 7, 2006, your Board instructed the Department of Public Social Services to work in concert with the Department of Health Services (DHS), the Los Angeles Community College District, the Los Angeles Unified School District, and the Los Angeles County Office of Education to create a customized program in the medical field for CalWORKs participants that will lead to employment within DHS. Pursuant to your instructions, DHS and DPSS, along with the adult schools, regional occupation centers and programs, and community colleges, identified three positions to focus on: 1) Certified Nursing Attendant (CNA); 2) Pharmacy Technician; and 3) Hospital Custodian. As shared with your Board in the August 2006 report, the Pharmacy Technician was removed from consideration due to new examination and recertification requirements. However, in its place, a radiology technician program is currently under consideration.

Since implementation on August 15, 2006, sixty-one CalWORKs participants have completed the CNA training program. Twenty-one participants initiated the job application process during a targeted application event conducted with DHS, though there are no employment numbers to report as yet. Of the remaining 40, thirty-one participants were notified of the targeted application event but were unable to attend.

However, outreach efforts are in effect to encourage them to apply for CNA positions within DHS. The additional nine participants finalized their training following the targeted application date and our job development staff will work with them to assist with the submission of an application. According to DHS, there are approximately 172 vacancies for CNA positions at DHS so participants who complete the program have an excellent opportunity to be hired.

The number of CalWORKs participants who complete the CNA training is expected to increase in the future, according to information provided by the participating schools. Additionally, as part of continuing outreach efforts, the DHS Office of Nursing Affairs and facility Nurse Recruiters are conducting site visits at various colleges and GAIN offices to provide information on employment opportunities and facilitate the job application process.

Currently, there are three participants enrolled in the Hospital Custodian training program. Once they have successfully completed the 200-hour training, they will be given an opportunity to apply for one of the estimated 40 vacancies in DHS.

In the next status update to your Board in August 2007, we will provide information on the number of participants hired by DHS as a result of this program.

BY:BC:dy

c: Chief Administrative Officer  
County Counsel  
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